GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4689
ANSWERED ON:12.08.2014
ASSISTANCE TO PINEAPPLE GROWERS
George Shri (Adv.) Joice

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is considering to provide a special package/assistance to the pineapple farmers of Vizhakulam area of Kerala which is a pineapple city;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the fluctuating prices of pineapple has affected a large number of farmers who are dependent on this seasonal crop; and

(d) if so, the details thereof along with the corrective steps taken by the Government in this regard?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (DR. SANJEEV KUMAR BALYAN)

(a) & (b): Vizhakulam area falls in Ernakulum, a district in which all interventions under Mission for Integrated Development of Horticulture (MIDH) are supported.

Pineapple growers are eligible to get assistance under the Mission for Integrated Development of Horticulture (MIDH), for area coverage under Pineapple (sucker) integrated with drip irrigation as well as without integration and Pineapple (TC) integrated with drip irrigation as well as without integration.

(c) & (d): The Kerala Pineapple Mission supported by Government of Kerala, provides subsidy to Nadukkara Agro Processing Company Limited (NAPCL), a Government supported company for procuring pineapple from farmers. During the last harvest season, NAPCL procured 73 MT of pineapple from the farmers of Vizhakulam area @ Rs.15/kg.